# WEEKLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT • Chris Salomone, Manager

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# LIGHT RAIL BRIDGE

Mesh is going up on the light rail bridge, which is greatly changing the appearance of the bridge. Shown in the image is the artist's addition to the bridge, using concaved areas and indented installation of several different colors and sizes of brick to create unusual shadow effects.

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# HELP IS ON THE WAY

The Neighborhood Enhancement division has hired seven of the 10 new inspectors authorized in this new budget cycle. Some are already out working in their assigned areas. The general concept is that we will have one field inspector assigned to each of the city's eight geographic areas and two assigned to the office to research ownership information and follow up on unregistered rental properties. The field inspectors will be proactively pursuing code violations such as lawn parking, deteriorated landscaping, inoperable cars, and junk or debris accumulations.

Don Alexander and Bradley Butterfield entrenched in training.

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# **CONGRATULATIONS**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz, economic development manager for the City of Tempe, has been elected vice-chair of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) Economic Development Directors Team (EDDT). Members of EDDT are made up of economic development professionals from GPEC's member communities, higher educational institutions, utility companies and other economic development partners. The team gives guidance on regional issues and GPEC's strategic efforts while assisting GPEC's internal business development team in attracting new companies.

Sheri has worked in economic development for over 16 years and has been an EDDT member for over 11 years. She is an active participant of AAED and is a Certified Economic Developer. Her term officially began July 1 and will end June 30, 2007.

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# **Le MERIDIEN**

SunCor announced a Five Star hotel for its development this week. Le Meridien, primarily a European and Asian chain, is known for its attention to detail and sophisticated comfort. It will attract a well-traveled, cosmopolitan guest. The hotel at Tempe Town Lake will offer 183 rooms, a spa, state of the art technology, meeting space, and fine dining. Room nights in other Le Meridien hotels range from \$200 to \$900. It is expected that this hotel will generate approximately 50,000 room nights and \$14 million in room night revenue annually.

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# To be BUILT TO LAST, you have to be built for CHANGE!"

Jim Collins, author "Built to Last"



# **SPONSORSHIP**

The Economic Development Division is sponsoring a breakfast on the Millennial Worker with the Arizona Technology Council on Aug. 30. Representatives of the Maricopa County Community College District, based in Tempe, will speak on Arizona's changing workforce. The breakfast is at the Tempe Mission Palms.

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# **ARMORY LOFTS**

A 3D model of The Armory project has been created by Constellation Property and incorporated into a Google Earth model. This is just the beginning of the effort to update the 3D video that will premier at Tempe's Development Showcase on Nov.

8. If you would like to see this model and learn more about the technology of the Tempe Development Showcase please call Durrant Williams.

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### JAN KOEHN TAKES POST IN TUCSON

After eight years with Tempe, **Jan Koehn**, Neighborhood Enhancement Code Administrator, is taking the Administrator position in Tucson's newly created Department of Neighborhood Resources. The impact of her years of service is measurable by the growth and success of Tempe's Neighborhood Enhancement Division. Staff members say, "No matter what problems occur, she's able to find an answer calmly. She's very resourceful." Jan's last day with Tempe is Friday, August 18th. She will be missed.

**NOTE TO TUCSON**: She'll be great! All she needs is her sewing machine for quilting, Sirius Radio and an abundant supply of chocolate. Perhaps the only good thing about her leaving Tempe is that there will be more chocolate around here for everyone else!

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#### << AROUND THE CITY

SunCor, latest rendering includes Le Meridien

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